



CHALLENGERS OF THE

15¢



MAR.
NO. 72

LINK KNOWN

WE'VE
GOT
TO FIND
THAT
CAT!

ITS
SCRATCH
CAN
DESTROY
YOU!



A PLAGUE OF DARKNESS!

MANY AND MYRIAD ARE THE SECRETS WHICH MEN HAVE FORGOTTEN! MUCH DARK LORE PERISHED WHEN HUMANKIND EMERGED FROM THE DARK AGES INTO MODERN TIMES! SUCH KNOWLEDGE IS BEST LEFT UNREMEMBERED -- FOR HE WHO WOULD REDISCOVER IT RISKS HIS VERY SOUL...

IT IS THE CLOSE OF A WORK-WEEK AT A SMALL MANHATTAN CHEMICAL FIRM...



'NIGHT, MR. MURLIN!

SEE YA MONDAY, BOSS!

YES, MONDAY! NOW, LEAVE-- HURRY, YOU FOOLS! LET ME ALONE--

HOW I LONG FOR THIS HOUR... FOR TWO WHOLE DAYS TO MYSELF--



--FREE FROM THE STUPID TASK OF EARNING MONEY... FREE TO CONTINUE MY GRAND SEARCH...



... TO SEEK THE SPLENDID LEARNING OF THE ANCIENT ALCHEMISTS!

IN THIS VIAL MAY BE THE SECRET OF ETERNAL YOUTH! I NEED ONLY ADD SOME ESSENCE OF MANDRAKE ROOT--



AHHGH--! IT IS THE WRONG COLOR! I HAVE AGAIN FAILED!

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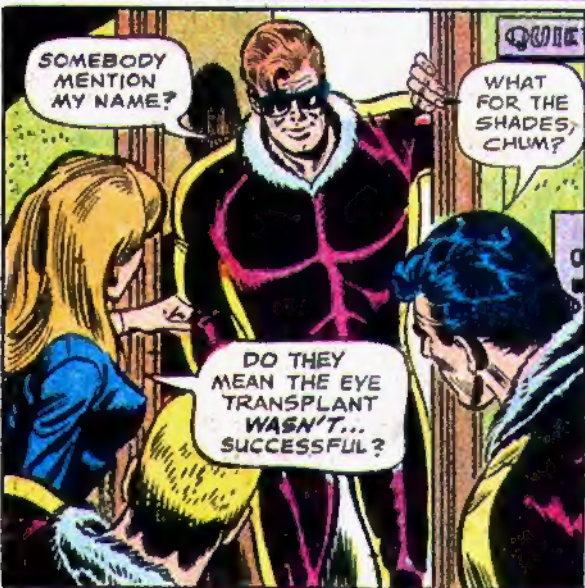
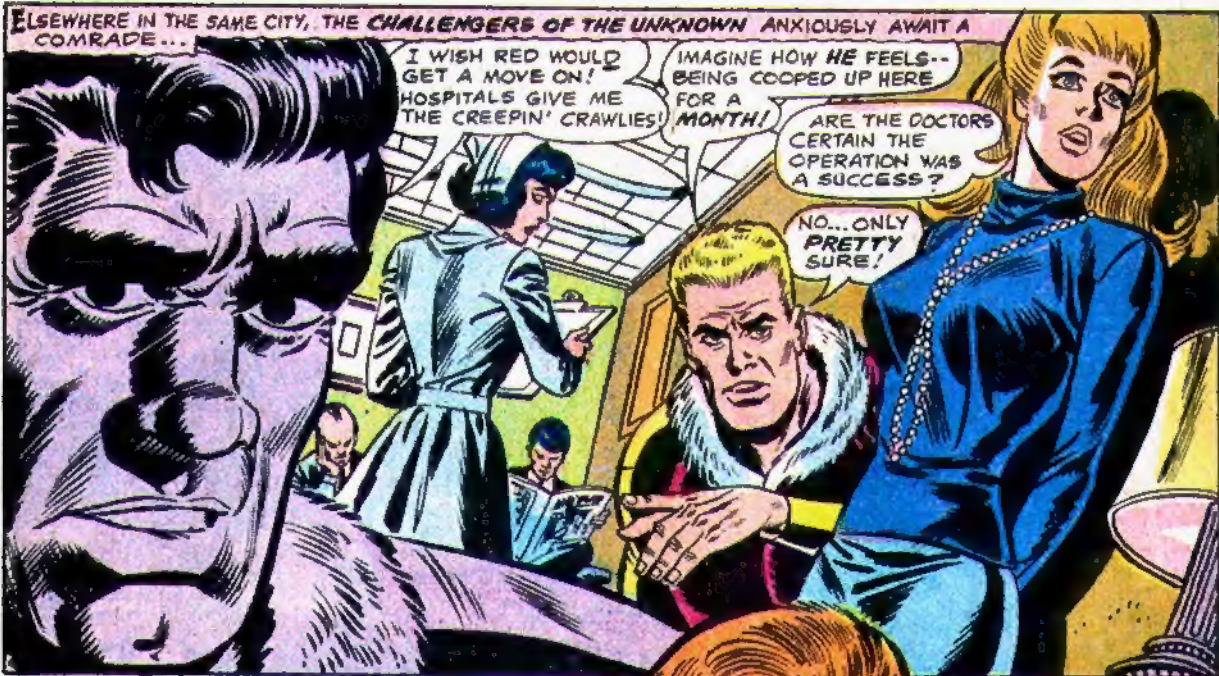
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THUS THE TERRIBLE TRUTHS OF THE PAST REACH OUT TO THE PRESENT... TO THREATEN THE WORLD WITH...

A PLAGUE OF DARKNESS

ELSEWHERE IN THE SAME CITY, THE CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN ANXIOUSLY AWAIT A COMRADE...









LET'S CHAT WITH THE CHALLS

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Ever since Bob Brown swung over to drawing "Superboy" in the mag bearing his own name and "Batman" in Detective Comics, we've done our ablest to fill the void. Perhaps we weren't wholly successful with the couple of craftsmen who were assigned to the feature.

Why wait until the next issue to announce the stunning news? The explosive information we breathlessly relay to you is that George Tuska will mastermind in pen and ink the Challs' exploits, beginning with issue No. 73. "The Curse of the Killer Time Forgot," which we are entrusting to his care, isn't just another comic mag story, as dramatic as it is. It's an experience...to be read, enjoyed, re-read, savored, and long remembered. And it had its origin in the fertile, fevered brain of Denny O'Neil, rustivating temporarily in the remote pasturelands of Missouri.

Who is Gentleman George Tuska? At some future time we will delve into his background, but for the time being let it suffice to say he's a star of newspaper syndicate strips and comic mag stories, recently returned to DC after too long a hiatus, and truly draws in the great tradition of the Challengers' originators, Jack Kirby and Wally Wood.

We're enthusiastic about George's wonderfully weird work, his highly imaginative way of spinning a story. We hope you will be!

Dear Editor:

Welcome to Corinna! Long may she wave with the Challengers. Red and Rocky feuding/and fussing over her was fairly obvious, that is, Red's dislike for her in contrast to ol' Rock-head's puppy-dog love for her, but the author handled the situations in a very, skillful and adult manner.

I'm all for new things in the Challs—Tino Manary, Red's blindness, Prof's whackiness, Corinna and her mad-as-a-hatter father—but I also look back longingly at the old. Is there any possibility of bringing back such fierce-eyed villains as Villo (self-styled "the world's worst villain"), Bubble-Master, the Challenger-Haters, Multi-Man?

Alfonzo Battise, Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Editor:

Mummies, witches, ghouls! Come back to earth with those good old rogues—Iron Dictator, D-Man, Multi-Man!

Darrell McCauley, Mentor, O.

We've also always had a soft spot in our heart for those way-out weirdos, too. So fasten your safety belts,

everybody, and get ready. We're pitching some ideas around with a couple of scripters, and one of these days don't be surprised to find that most evil villain of 'em all, Villo, or that corrupt, chameleon-like character, Multi-Man, back in business at their same old stands.—Ed.

Dear Editor:

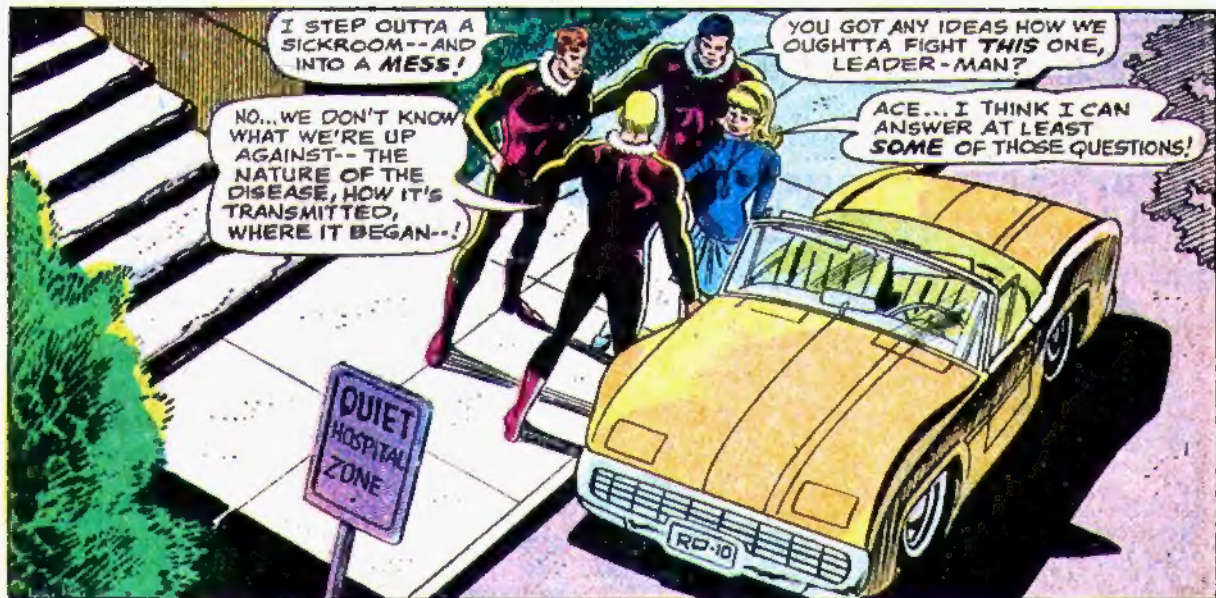
Lately I have read several letters from fans asking about a fifth Challenger, so may I take this opportunity to answer them. I can recall four people who could be classified as a new Challenger, but each served only briefly. In Showcase #7, 12 years ago, when Rocky was nearly killed in a story called "Ultimate Is Loose," a beautiful computer expert, June Robbins, offered to replace him. Rocky recovered, however, and June became an honorary member of the team.

In CHALLENGERS #30, six years ago, a flashy guy named F. Gaylord Clayburn III, in a yarn appropriately named "The Fifth Challenger," tried out for the team, and made it but quit when he realized he'd have to put his life on the line every time. "The Kook and the Kilowatt Killer" in #57, two years ago gave us that rock-and-rollin' kid brother of Red Ryan, Martin, nicknamed Tino, who learned that the Challs were not responsible for Red's "death," and joined the squad to hunt down and defeat Power-Man. Offered a permanent post with the Challs, Tino rejected it but stayed with them until Red returned.

In 1969's #69, "The Secret of Skull Mountain" introduced us to Corinna Stark, who filled in for Prof, who'd been shot by her father. The question seems to be, should there or should there not be a fifth Challenger? My compliments for keeping the ball bouncing among our four stalwart Challs all these years, but if you do decide to install a permanent fifth member of the team, I'm sure you won't do it to the detriment of our boys.

Wallace L. Hopkins, Glen Carbon, Ill.

Thanks, Wallace, for the notable job of research. In all frankness, we never did, over all those years, actually go out seeking a fifth Challenger. Once a situation was established in each story, events developed without our over-all control, just as they do in real life. If they produced the possibility of adding a new member to our group, it was the result of a natural sequence of events. We always thought our fearless four could handle anything, but if it was their fate to be joined by a fifth, so be it!—Ed.



I STEP OUTTA A SICKROOM--AND INTO A MESS!

YOU GOT ANY IDEAS HOW WE OUGHTTA FIGHT THIS ONE, LEADER-MAN?

NO...WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST-- THE NATURE OF THE DISEASE, HOW IT'S TRANSMITTED, WHERE IT BEGAN--!

ACE... I THINK I CAN ANSWER AT LEAST SOME OF THOSE QUESTIONS!

LOOK, LADY-- I APPRECIATE THE HELP YOU GAVE US ON SKULL MOUNTAIN!* AND I APPRECIATE YOU FILLIN' IN FOR ME--

-- BUT NOW THAT I'M HEALTHY, YOU JUST AREN'T NEEDED! DO US ALL A FAVOR-- GO BACK TO YOUR KNITTIN'!

I SHOULDN'T HIT HIM-- BUT WHEN HE TALKS TO CORINNA LIKE THAT--

-- I CAN'T HELP MYSELF!

BUTTON YER LIP, BRICK-HEAD, OR I'LL--

I'M ALFIE EISEN OF "THE NEWS." THE DOC TOLD ME YOU WERE AFTER A STRANGE BUG--! I SAW THOSE GUYS WAITING FOR EMERGENCY TREATMENT--

THEN YOU KNOW HOW **SERIOUS** THIS IS! MR. EISEN, I'M ASKING YOU NOT TO REPORT WHAT YOU'VE SEEN AND HEARD...

NO CAN DO! IF FOLKS ARE IN DANGER, THEY HAVE A RIGHT TO LEARN THE FACTS!



*THE SKULL MOUNTAIN CAPERS OCCURRED IN ISSUES 69 AND 70.

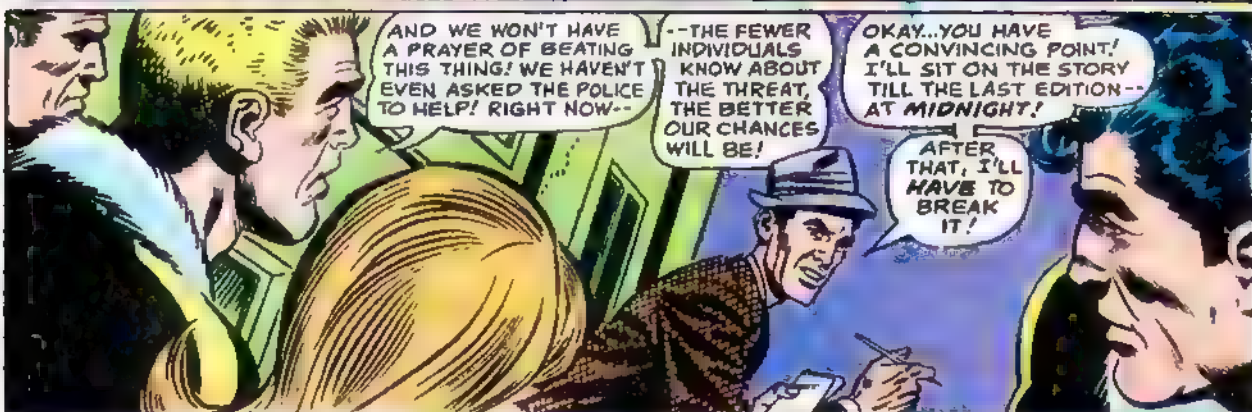




CONTRARY TO RUMOR, WE REPORTERS DO HAVE ETHICS! OUR JOB IS TO TELL THE TRUTH--ALL OF IT!

I PRIDE MYSELF ON DOING MY JOB!

I UNDERSTAND-- AND SYMPATHIZE! BUT IF THE STORY GETS UNCORKED NOW, THE CITY WILL PANIC!

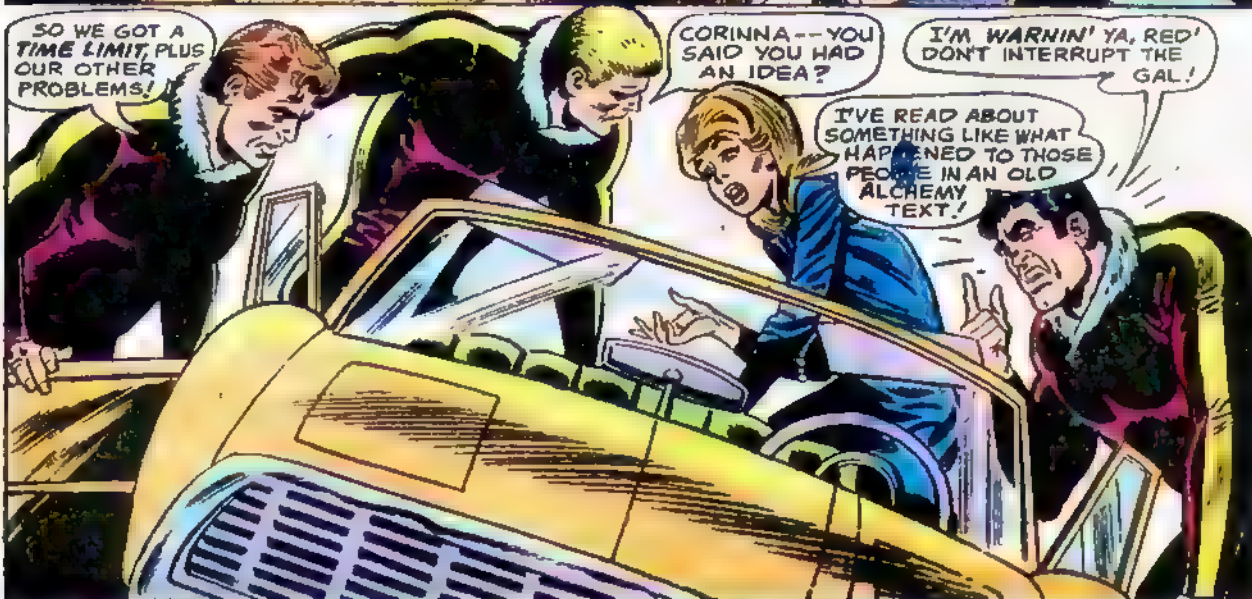


AND WE WON'T HAVE A PRAYER OF BEATING THIS THING! WE HAVEN'T EVEN ASKED THE POLICE TO HELP! RIGHT NOW--

--THE FEWER INDIVIDUALS KNOW ABOUT THE THREAT, THE BETTER OUR CHANCES WILL BE!

OKAY...YOU HAVE A CONVINCING POINT! I'LL SIT ON THE STORY TILL THE LAST EDITION-- AT MIDNIGHT!

AFTER THAT, I'LL HAVE TO BREAK IT!

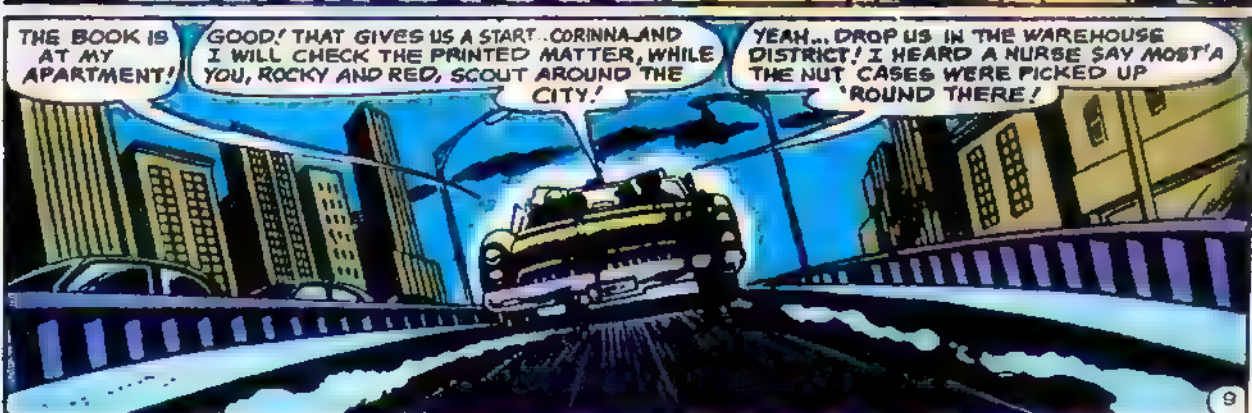


SO WE GOT A TIME LIMIT, PLUS OUR OTHER PROBLEMS!

CORINNA-- YOU SAID YOU HAD AN IDEA?

I'M WARNIN' YA, RED! DON'T INTERRUPT THE GAL!

I'VE READ ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE WHAT HAPPENED TO THOSE PEOPLE IN AN OLD ALCHEMY TEXT!



THE BOOK IS AT MY APARTMENT!

GOOD! THAT GIVES US A START...CORINNA AND I WILL CHECK THE PRINTED MATTER, WHILE YOU, ROCKY AND RED, SCOUT AROUND THE CITY!

YEAH... DROP US IN THE WAREHOUSE DISTRICT! I HEARD A NURSE SAY MOST'A THE NUT CASES WERE PICKED UP 'ROUND THERE!



MEET US HERE
IN A COUPLA
HOURS!

TRY NOT TO
GET SO
WRAPPED
UP IN BOOKS
THAT YOU
FORGET!



DON'T LET RED'S
CRACKS BOTHER
YOU, CORINNA!

I DON'T
UNDERSTAND
WHY HE...
DISLIKES
ME! I'M QUITE
FOND OF
HIM!

RED WAS RAISED
IN A CIRCUS...THAT'S
A PRETTY ROUGH
LIFE! I THINK THE
ONLY HUMAN BEINGS
HE'S EVER FULLY
TRUSTED ARE ROCKY,
PROF AND ME...



...HE'S AFRAID
YOU'LL BREAK
UP THE TEAM--
AND LEAVE HIM
HOMELESS
AGAIN! ROCKY
REALIZES
YOU ONLY
WANT TO
HELP!

YES...ROCKY IS
EMBARRASSINGLY
ATTENTIVE! I FEEL
BADLY ABOUT NOT
RESPONDING TO
HIS ATTENTIONS...

...BUT WE COULD
NEVER BE MORE
THAN--FRIENDS!

EVENING,
MISS
STARK!



AT THAT MOMENT...

PERHAPS I ACTED TOO HASTILY!
I MAY HAVE DISCOVERED A
POTION **GREATER** THAN THE
ETERNAL YOUTH ELIXIR! I
MUST FIND A HUMAN GUINEA
PIG!

HEY,
OL'
BUDDY!
GOT
A
MINUTE?



HA! HERE HE IS--AN EXCELLENT
SUBJECT FOR FURTHER
EXPERIMENTATION!

KIN I BORROW A QUARTER...
JUS' A LOAN, UNNERSTAN'!
GOTTA GIT TO MY SISTER
BY BUS--

I HAVE NO MONEY, BUT
PERHAPS YOU'LL
ACCEPT A SMALL
DRINK!



DON' MIND IF I DO--

GURRP



SPLENDID..
WONDERFUL!
AS I'D HOPED--
I HAVE REDIS-
COVERED THE
FABLED SOUL-
QUENCHER!

MY MIND POSITIVELY BOGGLES
AT THE POSSIBILITIES! I
CAN MAKE THE WHOLE
CITY ONE HUGE
LABORATORY!



WE BEEN WALKIN' AN HOUR
AN' A HALF-- AN' ALL WE GOT
TO SHOW FER IT IS SORE
FEET!

ROCK--LOOK!
THE WAY
THAT GUY'S
MOVIN'.. STIFF
AN' AWKWARD--!



I GET THE
MESSAGE, YOU
CATCH THE BUM...
I'LL GO AFTER
THE OTHER
BOZO!

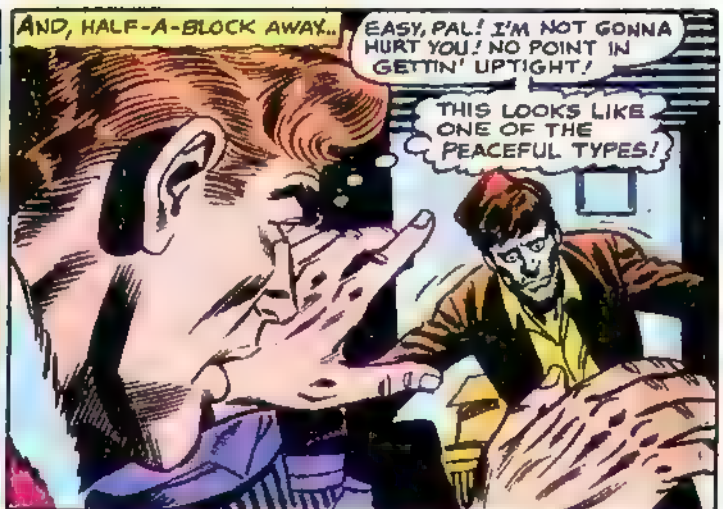


I MUST NOT BE
DISTURBED BEFORE
I CAN PUT MY
GRAND PLAN
INTO ACTION!

HE DUCKED
INTO THE
ALLEY--!
SHOULD BE
EASY TO
NAB 'IM!



HUH--? HE VANISHED!
I'M BEGINNIN' TO GET
SPOOKED!



AND, HALF-A-BLOCK AWAY...

EASY, PAL! I'M NOT GONNA
HURT YOU! NO POINT IN
GETTIN' UPTIGHT!

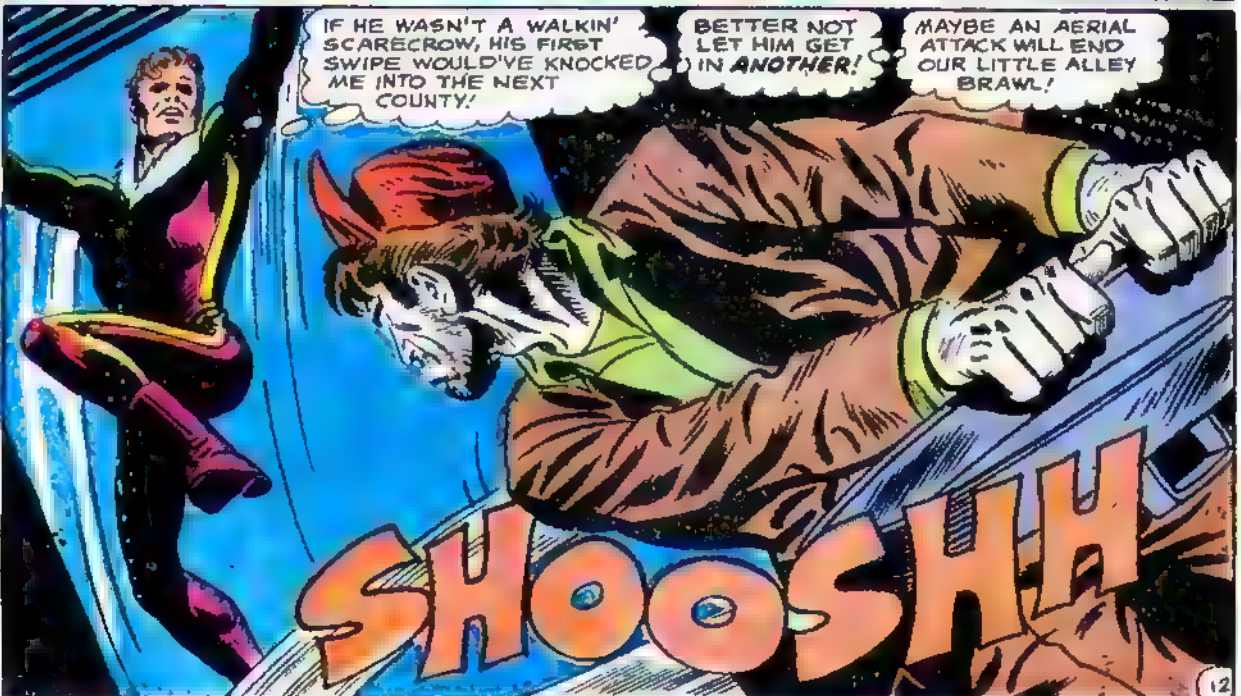
THIS LOOKS LIKE
ONE OF THE
PEACEFUL TYPES!



SCHUNNG

OWW--!

MY STAY IN THE
HOSPITAL MUST'VE
SLOWED ME--! I
SHOULD'VE DODGED
THAT EASY...



IF HE WASN'T A WALKIN'
SCARECROW, HIS FIRST
SWIPE WOULD'VE KNOCKED
ME INTO THE NEXT
COUNTY!

BETTER NOT
LET HIM GET
IN ANOTHER!

MAYBE AN AERIAL
ATTACK WILL END
OUR LITTLE ALLEY
BRAWL!

SHOOOSH

WHEW--! I'M WORSE
OUTTA CONDITION THAN
I THOUGHT! MUSCLES
ARE CREAKIN' LIKE
RUSTY HINGES!

STILL, MY YEARS OF
TRAININ' COUNT FOR
SOMETHIN'!



LIKE, THEY COUNT FOR
A PERFECT KAYO PUNCH!

CAN'T FEEL VERY PROUD
OF MYSELF, THOUGH...
BASHIN' A ZONKED
OLD MAN!



PRETTY CLASSY KNUCKLE-
WORK, RED! YA MIGHT
MAKE A FIGHTER YET!

HOW'D YOU DO,
MUSCLES?

ROTTEN, IS HOW!
THE BIRD GOT
AWAY CLEAN!



LET'S LOAD SLEEPIN'
BEAUTY INTO AN
AMBULANCE AN' KEEP
OUR DATE WITH ACE
AN' COR!

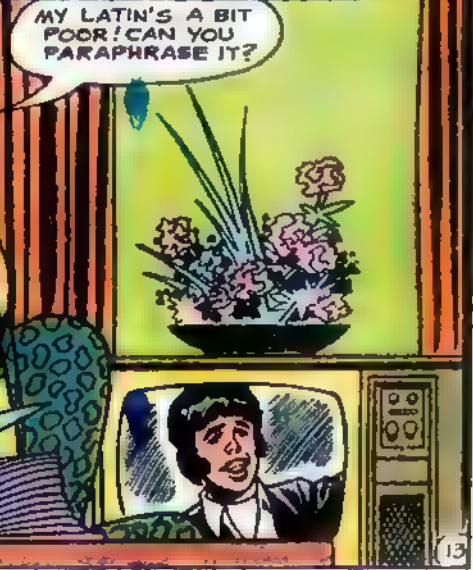
I HOPE THEY HAD
BETTER LUCK THAN
WE'RE HAVIN'!



INDEED THEY ARE! FOR, AT THAT MOMENT, IN CORINNA STARK'S LUXURIOUS APARTMENT...

ACE! I'VE FOUND IT!
THE DESCRIPTION
OF THE PLAGUE,
HOW IT'S TRANS-
MITTED--AND
THE ANTIDOTE!

MY LATIN'S A BIT
POOR! CAN YOU
PARAPHRASE IT?



JUST AS I SUSPECTED, THE SICKNESS IS A BY-PRODUCT OF CERTAIN ALCHEMICAL BREWS! IT AFFECTS A PERSON INSTANTLY UPON CONTACT...

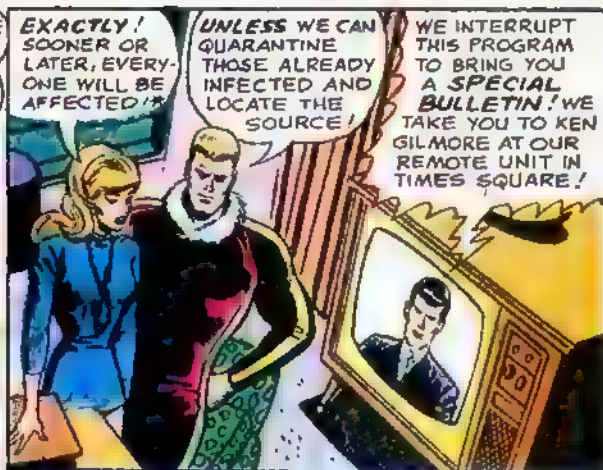
...BUT IT CAN ONLY BE PASSED ON TO SOMEONE OF THE SAME BLOOD TYPE!

THEN, PEOPLE WITH TYPE "O" BLOOD CAN GIVE IT TO ANYONE!

EXACTLY! SOONER OR LATER, EVERYONE WILL BE AFFECTED!

UNLESS WE CAN QUARANTINE THOSE ALREADY INFECTED AND LOCATE THE SOURCE!

WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM TO BRING YOU A SPECIAL BULLETIN! WE TAKE YOU TO KEN GILMORE AT OUR REMOTE UNIT IN TIMES SQUARE!



"TYPE 'O' BLOOD IS THE UNIVERSAL DONOR. TYPE 'A' BLOOD IS THE UNIVERSAL RECEIVER. ERGO, THE PLAGUE WILL EVENTUALLY DIFFUSE THROUGHOUT THE POPULATION."

FOR YEARS, WHILE I WAS IMPRISONED IN MY FATHER'S CASTLE, I STUDIED THE OCCULT!

I LEARNED THAT BLACK MAGIC DOES EXIST, BUT THERE ARE TERRIBLE FORCES BEYOND THOSE THAT MEN KNOW, AND THOSE WHO DARE TAMPER WITH THEM SUFFER TERRIBLE CONSEQUENCES!



THIS IS FANTASTIC! HERE ON BROADWAY AND 42ND STREET, DOZENS OF PEDESTRIANS ARE MILLING AROUND AIMLESSLY...



THEY'RE BREAKING STORE WINDOWS, UPSETTING CARS... NO ONE SEEMS TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON!



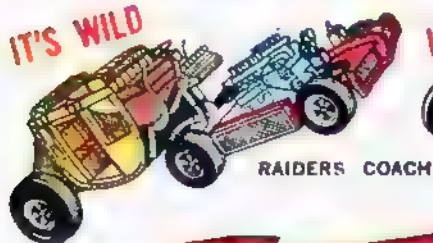
AND THE MOB SEEMS TO BE GROWING--





WHAT'S THE WORD?

IT'S WILD



IT'S BOSS



IT'S GROOVE



IT'S
POP CORN WAGON

EASY TO BUILD - HARD TO DESCRIBE. THAT'S MPC'S CUSTOM CAR KITS! BUT IF YOU HAVE A WORD THAT TAGS THE POP CORN WAGON, MPC'S GREAT NEW MODEL CAR KIT IN SUPER-SIZE 1/20th SCALE. LET US KNOW! BUILD THE POP CORN WAGON. THEN WRITE DOWN YOUR LATEST GROOVE WORD DESCRIBING IT AND SEND THE WORD TO US. WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU. IN ONE WORD.



TALONS OF NIGHT CLUTCH THE CITY...UPTOWN, THERE IS CHAOS, AND GROWING FEAR... AND IN THE ROWS OF ROTTING WAREHOUSES NEAR THE RIVER, THERE IS A TOMB-LIKE SILENCE.



...BROKEN ONLY BY THE DULL THUD OF BLUNT STEEL AGAINST OLD CEMENT...



H-HARD... LABOR! MUCH MORE DIFFICULT THAN I TH-THOUGHT...

BUT NECESSARY... THE RESERVOIR IS CLOSELY GUARDED AGAINST CONTAMINATION... BUT, ACCORDING TO A MAP, THERE'S A WATER MAIN BELOW!

...ONCE I FIND IT--AND FOUR MY POTION INTO IT--THE PLAGUE WILL BE UNSTOPPABLE!



A SINGLE BLOCK AWAY, ACE BRAKES HIS SLEEK VEHICLE TO A HALT...

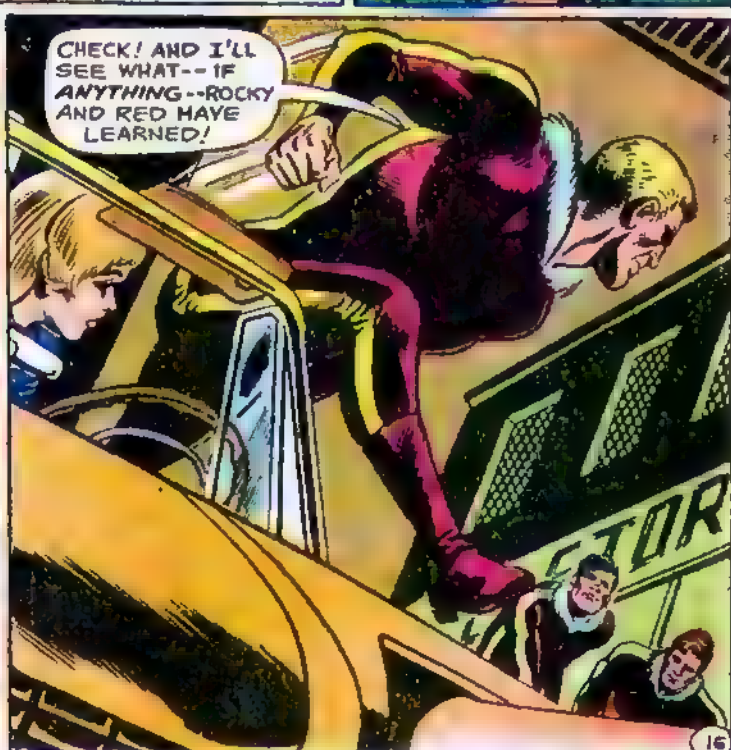
HOW'S THE ANTIDOTE COMING, CORINNA?

ALL RIGHT, I HOPE... I HAD TO MIX IT ON THE RUN--

--I'LL WAIT IN THE CAR UNTIL I'M CERTAIN I DIDN'T MAKE A MISTAKE!



CHECK! AND I'LL SEE WHAT-- IF ANYTHING--ROCKY AND RED HAVE LEARNED!





ZERO,
LEADER
OF
OURS!

AN' I DID WORSE!
I SEEN A GUY I
FIGGERED COULD
GIVE US SOME
INFO... BUT HE
DISAPPEARED!

SHOW
ME
WHERE!



AROUND
THE
CORNER--
HERE!

COULD HE
HAVE GONE
THROUGH
THAT
DOOR?

HEY--!
YOU FELLAS
HEAR
SOMETHIN'?
LIKE A
BUMPIN'?



OKAY, I
ADMIT IT...
I TAKE
STUPID
PILLS!

ANYBODY
COULDA
MISSED
SEEN' THAT
DOOR,
ROCK!

LET'S
MAKE
LIKE
DETECTIVES!



AHHH... SUCCESS!
I NEED ONLY BREAK
THE PIPE, AND--

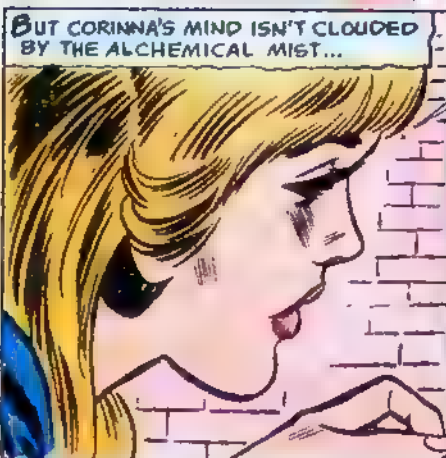
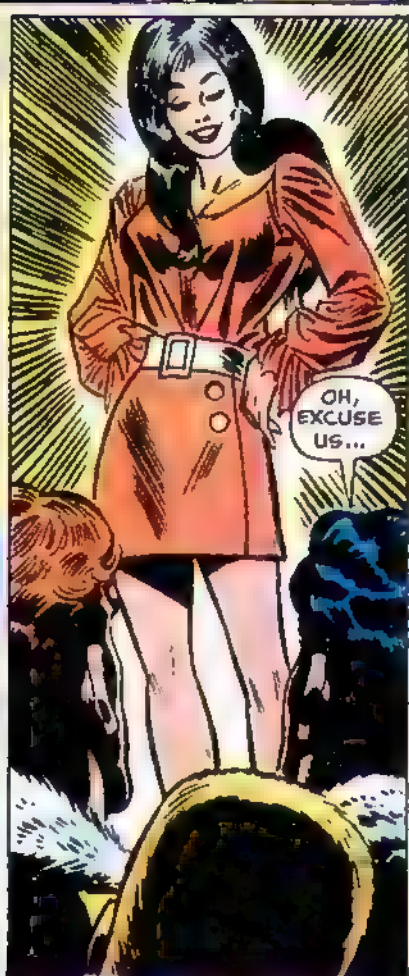
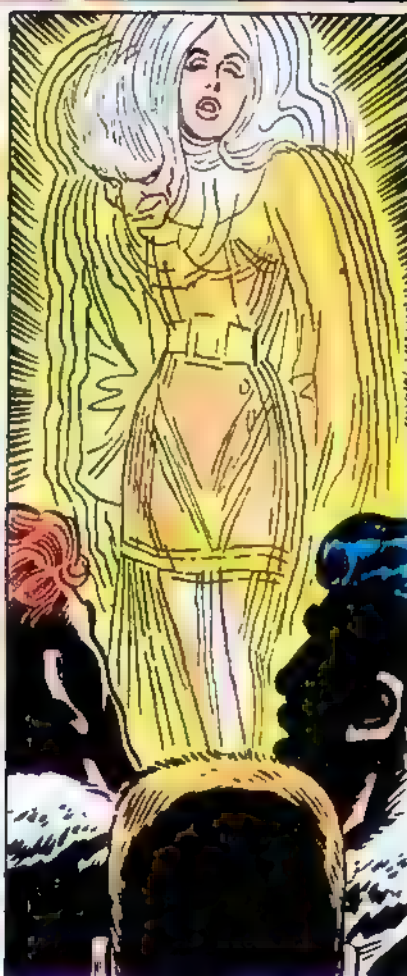
NOX
NOX

OPEN
UP!



A STRONG
VOICE... A
VOICE OF
AUTHORITY!
YET I AM
NOT PREPARED
FOR DEFEAT--

--AND I
POSSESS THE
MEANS! A
MINOR POTION
I CREATED A
FORTNIGHT
AGO WILL
CLOUD A
MIND FOR
TWENTY
MINUTES...



A MINUTE LATER

WHO YA
CALLIN',
ACE?

OUR CONTACT IN THE WHITE HOUSE!
WE HAVE NO CHOICE...WE'VE GOT
TO WRITE NEW YORK OFF!

FOR
WHY?

I'M ASKING THAT THE
AREA BE **QUARANTINED!**
I WANT FEDERAL TROOPS
AT ALL EXITS FROM THE
CITY--

--WITH ORDERS
TO SHOOT ANY-
ONE WHO
ATTEMPTS
TO LEAVE!

DON'T YOU THINK
I REALIZE ALL
THAT--? BUT THE
WHOLE **NATION--**
THE **WORLD--**
IS IN DANGER OF
INFECTION...

JUST A
SECOND...
RED, DID
YOU CALL
THAT MAN--
MISS?

HUH-UH! I
CALLED THAT
BEAUTIFUL
SOUTHERN
BELLE MISS
'CAUSE SHE
SURE WASN'T
A **MISTER!**

HOLD ON,
DAN--!
CORINNA--
WHAT ARE
YOU
GETTING
AT?

ACE--NO!
THOUSANDS.
HUNDREDS
OF THOUSANDS.
OF LIVES
WILL BE
LOST!
PEOPLE
WILL
STARVE--

YOUR PARTY
IS ON THE
LINE, MR.
MORGAN!

DAN? I WANT
YOU TO GET IN
TOUCH WITH THE
PENTAGON, AND--

WAIT--!

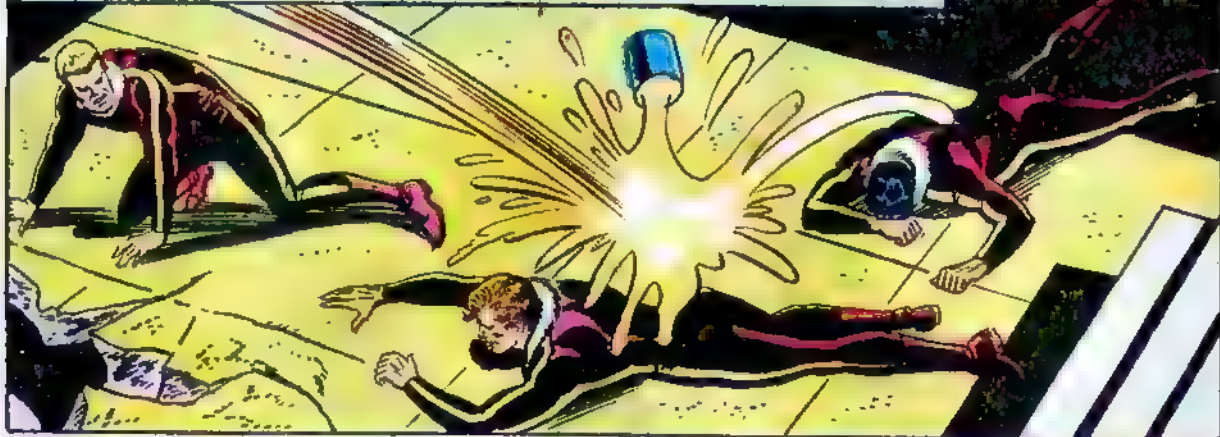
YOU THREE SAW
THAT PERSON AS
A FEMALE...AND
I'M CERTAIN HE
WAS A **MALE!**

COULD THAT
FUNNY SMELL
EXPLAIN...

YOU'RE **BLASTED**
RIGHT IT COULD--!

DAN, I'LL GET
BACK TO YOU!

THE BEAKER SHATTERS...THE VILE LIQUID SPLASHES A PAIR OF CHALLENGERS...

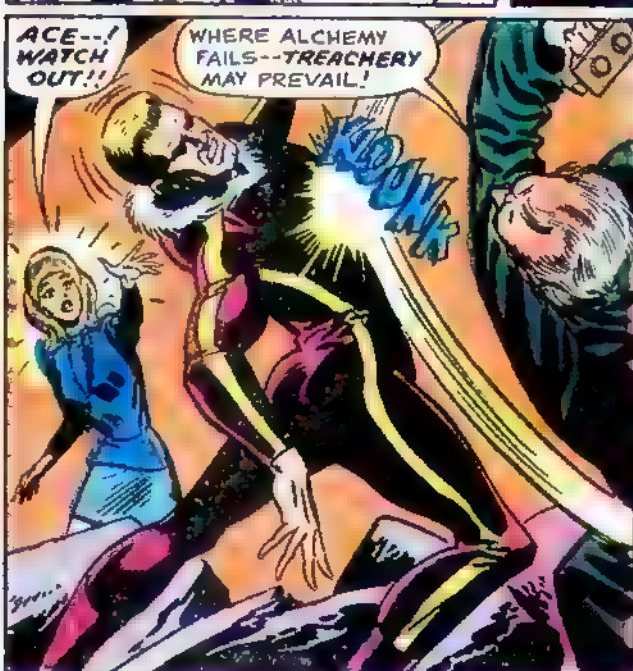


... WITH DIRE, DREADFUL RESULTS...



OKAY, MURLIN, OR WHATEVER YOUR NAME IS... COME HERE... QUIETLY!

I AM DEFEATED! I SHALL SURRENDER!



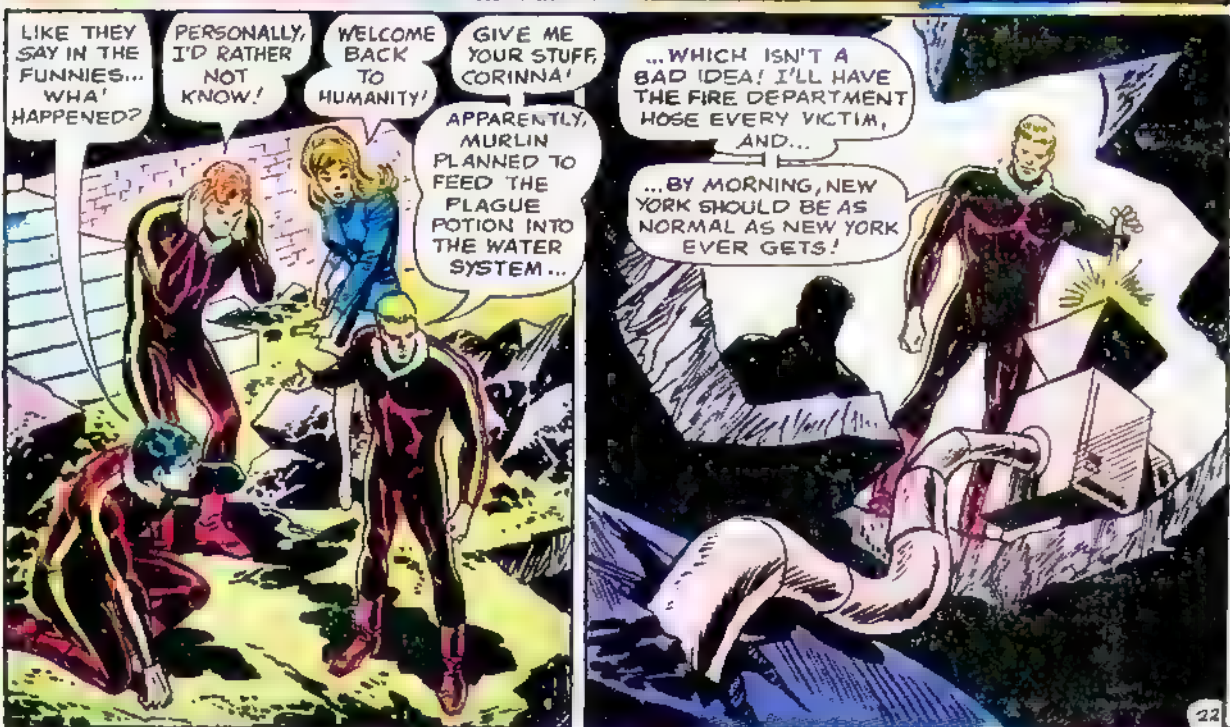
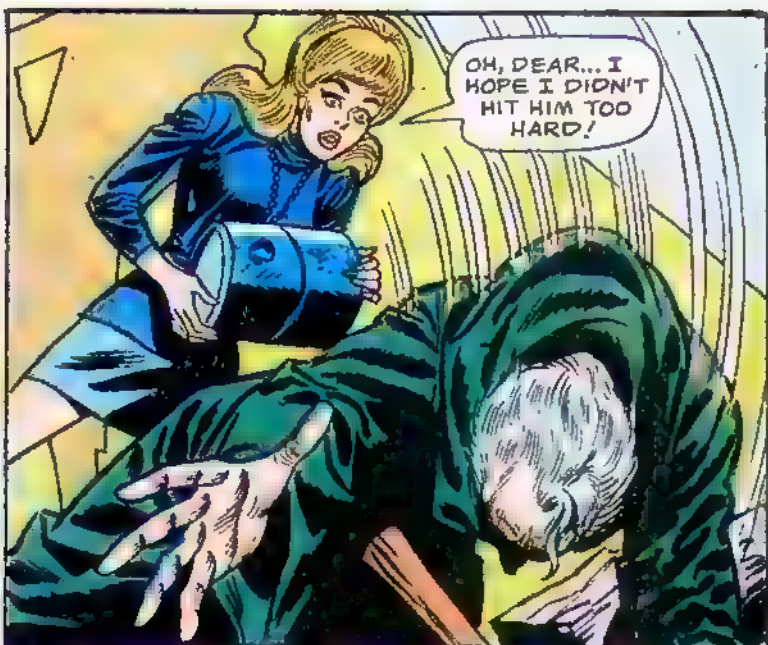
ACE--! WATCH OUT!!

WHERE ALCHEMY FAILS--TREACHERY MAY PREVAIL!



GROGGY... KNEES LIKE WATER...

ONLY AN INSTANT LONGER... AND YOUR EARTHLY TRAVAIL SHALL CEASE!



WEARILY, THE VALIANT QUARTET RETURNS TO CORINNA'S APARTMENT...

EXPERTS BELIEVE THE STRANGE MALADY, WHICH RECENTLY AFFECTED SOME OF THE RESIDENTS, INCLUDING YOUR REPORTER, WAS DUE TO EXTREME HEAT...

YEAH, SURE!

REMINDE ME NEVER TO BE AN EXPERT! I'M DUMB ENOUGH AS I AM!

THE REPORTERS ARE GIVING THE PUBLIC THE STORY I GAVE THEM! I DON'T WANT ANY MORE EXPERIMENTERS LOOKING FOR THAT FORMULA...

IT'S A SHAME I CAN'T GIVE YOU THE CREDIT YOU SO RICHLY DESERVE, CORINNA! YOU DID THE WORLD A TREMENDOUS SERVICE TODAY...

...WITHOUT YOUR KNOWLEDGE-- AND COURAGE--THIS CONTINENT MIGHT HAVE BECOME A DISASTER AREA!

SHE SMILES AT ACE... SHE'S GOO-GOO OVER MEAN-MOUTH RYAN... AND OLD ROCK IS JUST PART OF THE FURNITURE!

SHE DIDN'T DO BAD--FOR A GIRL! 'COURSE, PROF WOULD'VE COME UP WITH THE SAME ANSWERS!

FURTHER EXCURSIONS INTO THE EERIENESS BEYOND THE NATURAL WORLD IN THE NEXT CHRONICLE OF THE CHALLENGERS --! TILL THEN...

THE END.

23

HERE'S THE FUNNIEST ONE YET!

ON SALE DEC. 9th

THOMSON'S TEENAGERS

SUGAR SPIKE

15c

IT'S YOUR TURN TO PUSH DOLL-BOY!

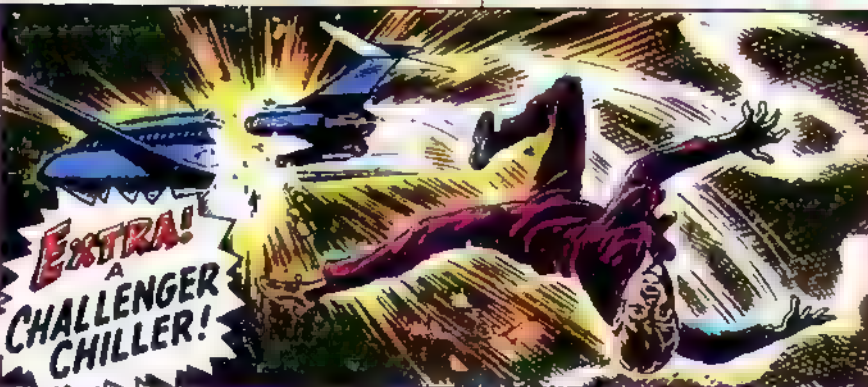
!

Silver Age

AL DENTON HAS TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF A GOOD THING-- BUT THE PAYOFF WAS A FATE WORSE THAN DEATH ITSELF--AND HIS NIGHTS AND DAYS WERE HAUNTED BY A QUESTION THAT STAGGERS THE IMAGINATION...

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER...OR DO THEY?

IT BEGAN WITH A BANG-- AN EXPLOSION AT 19,000 FEET! AL DENTON'S BODY WAS PITCHED FROM THE RUPTURED FUSELAGE OF A PASSENGER JET...



LAS VEGAS HAD FLEECEED THE SUAVE GAMBLER OF HIS "BUNDLE"-- AND NOW THE GRIM REAPER WAS PLAYING A SHOWDOWN GAME... DEATH WAS THE STAKES...

...BUT THE "DECK" WAS STACKED!

MY LUCK'S TAPPED OUT... CASHING IN FOR KEEPS... HEY! I FEEL LIKE I'M FLOATING...



HEARD ABOUT THINGS LIKE THIS... WHEN GUYS TAKE THE BIG DIVE... THEIR LIVES FLASH THROUGH THEIR MINDS...

I AM NO LAST-MINUTE HALLUCINATION, AL! I AM FATE-- AND YOU ARE THE BILLIONTH HUMAN I HAVE GUIDED TO THE THRESHOLD OF DEATH...



BUT SINCE YOU ARE THE BILLIONTH BEING IN THIS TIME PERIOD, I AM TO HONOR YOU IN A MOST UNIQUE WAY...

LEE ELIAS

YOUR LIFE IS TO BE SPARED--
AND I AM OBLIGATED TO
DIRECT YOU TO ANY FUTURE
DESTINY YOU MAY
CHOOSE...

AND NOW, AL--WHAT DO
YOU WISH THE FUTURE TO
HOLD FOR YOU? FAME
AND FORTUNE? GOOD
HEALTH? NAME IT!

I'VE GOT AN IDEA FOR MY
FUTURE THAT WOULD GIVE
ME ALL THAT YOU'RE
SUGGESTING...AND MORE!
HOW ABOUT DEALING ME
A LIFE OF...

...IMMORTALITY?

AH, YOU ARE
A SHREWD
ONE, AL...

IF YOU'RE ON THE
LEVEL, THOSE WOULD BE
SUCKER CHOICES!

SO BE IT--ETERNAL LIFE IS YOURS! YOU SHALL NEVER
FEEL THE STING OF DEATH, ALFRED DENTON--THIS I
PROMISE YOU!

IF THAT CREEP'S NOT BLUFFING,
I'M A SHOO-IN TO TAKE THIS
WORLD BY THE TAIL!

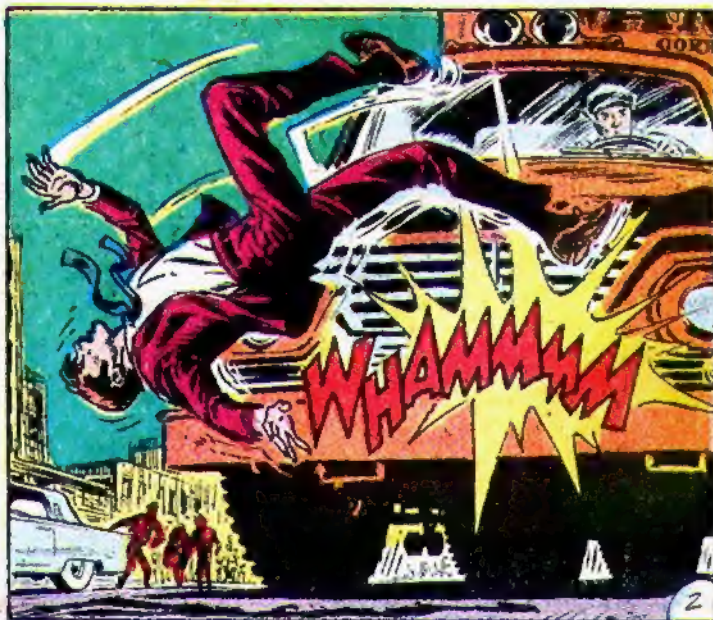
I'VE GOT
TO GET
HOME...
THINK
THIS
CRAZY
THING
OUT...

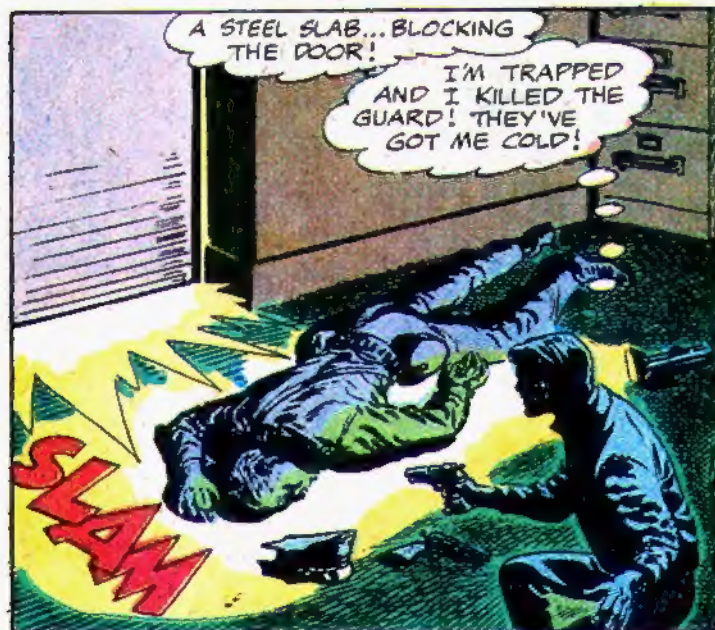
IT'S LIKE I WAS THE
BILLIONTH GUY OVER A BRIDGE...
OR HOLDING A THEATER TICKET
... ONLY THIS PAYOFF IS MUCH
BIGGER... IF IT'S
FOR REAL!

FATE... SAVING MY LIFE... GIVING ME
IMMORTALITY! IT'S ALL TOO MUCH
TO SWALLOW...

STILL...HOW COME I'M
WALKING AROUND
AFTER TAKING THAT
DIVE FROM THE
PLANE...?

MISTER!
THAT
TRUCK...
LOOK
OUT!

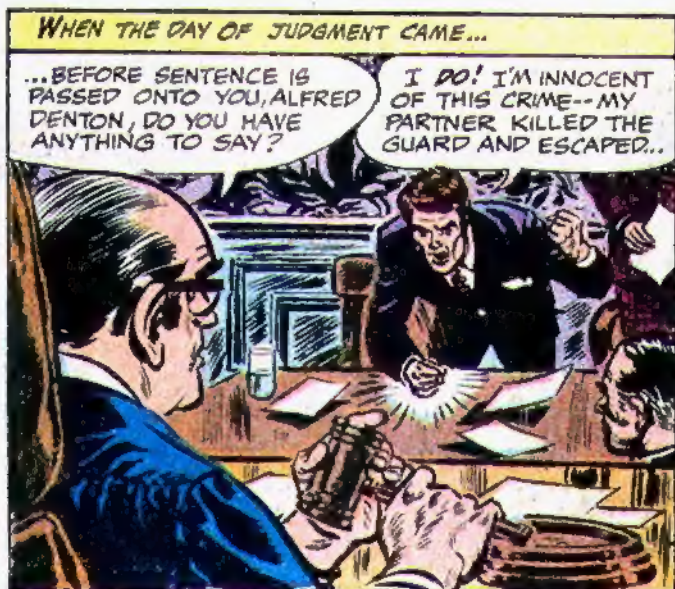






IT'S A CINCH THEY'LL GIVE ME THE CHAIR--BUT THEN WHAT? WHEN I DON'T KICK OFF...THEY'LL GIVE ME LIFE!

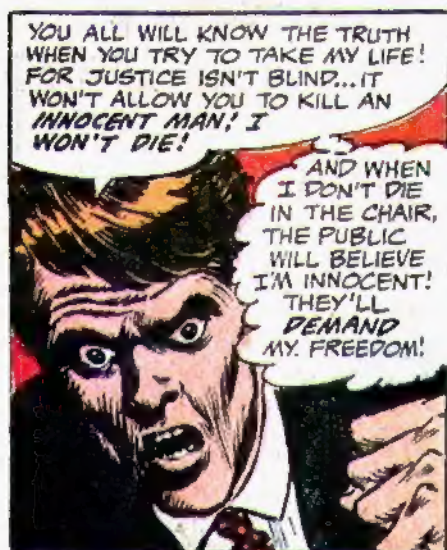
I'VE GOTTA BEAT THIS RAP... AND I THINK I KNOW HOW...



WHEN THE DAY OF JUDGMENT CAME...

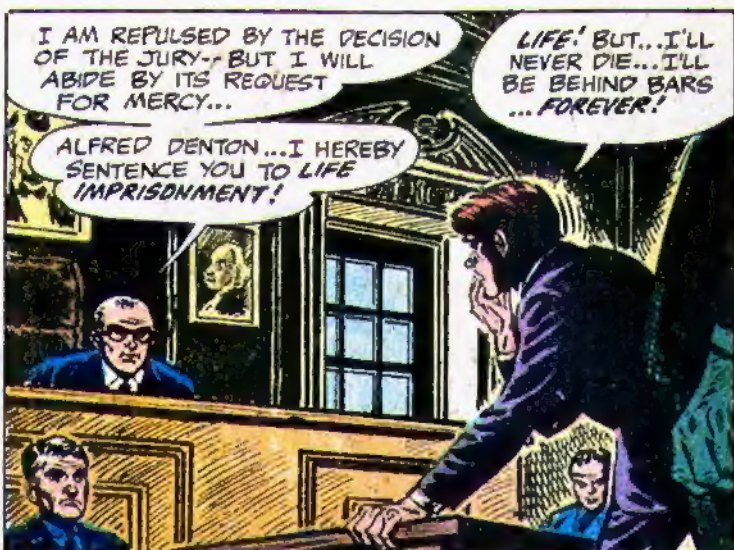
...BEFORE SENTENCE IS PASSED ONTO YOU, ALFRED DENTON, DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY?

I DO! I'M INNOCENT OF THIS CRIME--MY PARTNER KILLED THE GUARD AND ESCAPED...



YOU ALL WILL KNOW THE TRUTH WHEN YOU TRY TO TAKE MY LIFE! FOR JUSTICE ISN'T BLIND...IT WON'T ALLOW YOU TO KILL AN INNOCENT MAN! I WON'T DIE!

AND WHEN I DON'T DIE IN THE CHAIR, THE PUBLIC WILL BELIEVE I'M INNOCENT! THEY'LL DEMAND MY FREEDOM!



I AM REPULSED BY THE DECISION OF THE JURY--BUT I WILL ABIDE BY ITS REQUEST FOR MERCY...

LIFE! BUT...I'LL NEVER DIE...I'LL BE BEHIND BARS ...FOREVER!

ALFRED DENTON...I HEREBY SENTENCE YOU TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT!



I WANT TO DIE... PLEASE, SOMEONE, LET ME DIE...

2000 A.D.

4000 A.D.

3000 A.D.

ETERNITY...

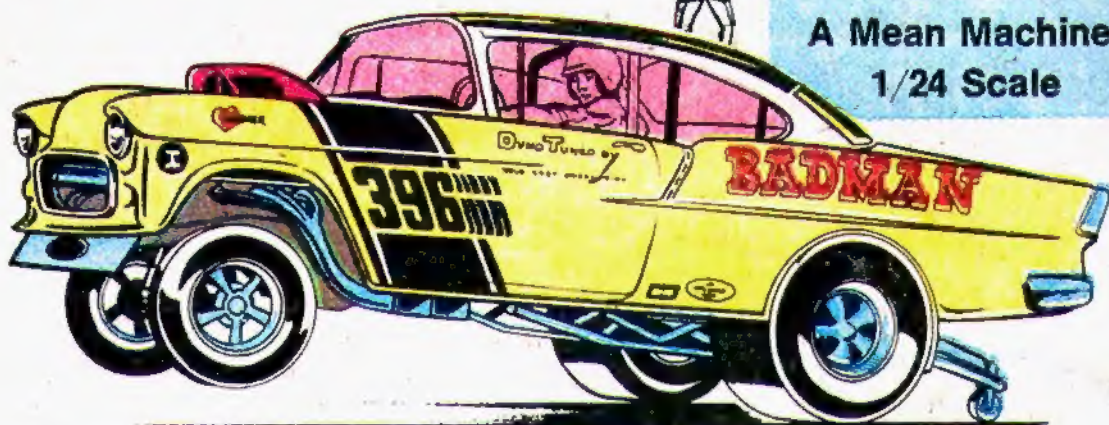
DON'T WORRY, AL! NOBODY LIVES FOREVER... OR DO THEY?

THE END

BADMAN



The "Funny Car"
Modified Screamer
With Jacked-Up
Front End!
A Mean Machine!
1/24 Scale



Monogram
quality hobby kits



Monogram Models, Inc.,
Subsidiary of Mattel, Inc.,
Morton Grove, Illinois.

Excitement on wheels for drag fans and go-go modelers. The Badman is a real, honest-to-goodness "funny car" loaded with eye-catching goodies. . . Lots of fun and plenty laughs. . . Great '55 Chevy body molded in one piece. Wild new red tinted windows and hood

scoop. Detailed chassis with modified 327 Chevy engine, blower and tuned exhausts and ladder type traction bars. Spoked mag wheels with wide ovals up front and wide jumbos on the rear. "Wheelie" wheels too. Get one at your favorite store. About 2 bucks.

THE SOUND AND THE FURY

